PROGRAM OF EVENTS

November 29th - December 10th

U.S. CENTER 2010

CANCUN

Contents

Also visit us at www.state.gov/COP16

Welcome to the U.S. Center

For the second consecutive year, the U.S. Department of State is organizing and hosting a U.S. Center at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties. This public diplomacy initiative, made possible by input from multiple U.S. government agencies, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations, private sector entities, and other stakeholders, will highlight key climate programs and scientific research, underscoring the strong actions the U.S. is taking at home and the robust strategy the U.S. is pursuing abroad to combat this global challenge.

Our exciting slate of events will take place in both the Exhibit Area and the Meeting Room, located at the CancunMesse.

The Exhibit Area, an area where visitors can learn more about U.S. climate actions and participate in multiple ENVIRONCAST® VISION™ Touch Table presentations that bring seamless layers of imagery and data together on a large screen, will be open from 9 am to 7 pm. Exhibit Area event details and additional information on ENVIRONCAST® VISION™ Touch Table programming begin on page 5.

The Meeting Room, next to the Exhibit Area, provides ample space for in-depth explorations of critical initiatives, policies, and scientific research. U.S. and international leaders in the fight against climate change will headline a varied series of panels during the two weeks of COP-16. Full details for scheduled Meeting Room events begin on page 8.

We look forward to your visit to the U.S. Center, and we hope you will join us during COP-16.

NOTE: Event timing is subject to change. Updated schedules will be available at the U.S. Center, and will be prominently posted throughout the conference.

Webcasting

All U.S. Center side events will be webcast using CO.NX, a U.S. Department of State initiative that deploys advanced media platforms such as social networking sites, live video streaming, and multimedia webchats to reach a global audience. CO.NX programs foster mutual understanding and promote international dialogue, by providing a forum for open discussion. The U.S. Center at COP-16 will open an online window into U.S. technical work on climate change through interactive webcasts and webchats with leading climate change experts.

Anyone may participate in the CO.NX COP-16 programs by going to: https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/cop16. Sign in as our guest by typing your name and entering the COP-16 room. While we accept comments and questions at any time, we strongly encourage advance questions for our interactive webchats. Once your question or comment has been successfully submitted, it will appear on your screen in red.

Stay up to date with CO.NX COP-16 offerings by visiting our Facebook page: http://co-nx.state.gov or signing up for our weekly updates: http://eepurl.com/kmBn.

Envirocast® Vision™ Touch Table

Visitors will be able to participate in hands-on data display and interactive data manipulation with their fingertips as the U.S. Center showcases this approach to inform decision making globally. StormCenter's Envirocast® Vision™ Collaboration Module is opening new doors of inclusion for understanding the impacts of extreme weather and climate change for the benefit of all nations while enabling real-time collaboration for enhanced decision making.

StormCenter Communications, Inc. will be demonstrating U.S. leadership in each of the COP16 thematic areas including **new technology, capacity-building for sharing climate information, and informing adaptation decisions** using geospatial data and information on an exciting interactive visualization and collaboration technology platform. Various scenarios will be demonstrated throughout COP16, including scenarios focusing on climate change, adaptation, mitigation and preparing for and responding to natural disasters. These scenarios will be projected onto a large screen for visitors to the U.S. Center's Exhibit Area to view and participate interactively.

Summaries for each of the scenarios presented by StormCenter are included on the following page. These scenarios will be repeated multiple times per day over the two week period. Look for daily updates to the schedule in the Exhibit Area.

COP16 TouchTable Presentation Summaries

Scenario 1: "The State of the Climate"

The interagency 2009 State of the Climate Report, published by NOAA in collaboration with more than 300 scientists from around the world, documents climate conditions globally over the last year. The report shows that the past decade was the warmest on record; and that each of the last four decades was warmer than the one before it. How and why is Earth's climate changing? Have there been changes

in the extremes of natural climate variability? This presentation will take viewers on an interactive exploration of Earth's climate system and how we know what we know about today's state of the climate.

Scenario 2: "Adapting to Climate Change: What's Next?"

Scientists' ability to observe and monitor Earth's climate system has grown increasingly robust since the 1970s. The result has been advances in scientists' understanding of the causes and effects of climate change, and improved confidence to their ability to simulate the climate system using computer models. What do future climate scenario models indicate we are likely to see this century? This presentation will explore how ongoing societal trends—such as changing populations' needs for food, water and energy—are likely to intersect with future climatic impacts.

Scenario 3: "International Collaboration for Enhanced Decision Making"

The United States leads multiple initiatives to share Earth observation and environmental information with other nations that go beyond just sharing data. Such initiatives generate actionable information for a full spectrum of end users—including decision makers, resource managers, businesses, researchers, news media, and citizens. By providing critical decision-support tools before and during extreme events, the U.S. contributes to practical local decisions for increased resilience and sustainable commerce that improves peoples' lives and livelihoods all around the world.

Scenario 4: "Mitigating Climate Change: Observations Around the World"

Earth is warming and we all are experiencing changes. This presentation examines the reasons and the rates of climate change and asks: What can we do about it? The United States is a world leader in the development of technologies and techniques that can be used

to mitigate climate change. Where on Earth can we sustainably exploit natural renewable energy resources as alternatives to burning fossil fuels? Where might we also use such practices as reforestation to increase the drawdown of atmospheric carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere?

Scenario 5: "Using Remotely-Sensed Data to Inform Decisions"

Space-based remote sensors can help decision makers and scientists to better understand climatic and environmental phenomena such as drought, extreme weather, volcanoes, wildfires, landslides, flooding, and vector-borne diseases. Remotely-sensed data can help people assess the causes and likelihood of future environmental disasters so that at-risk populations can take steps to avoid situations that may be unmanageable. Remotely-sensed data can also help people monitor such extreme events in near-real-time to help populations better manage and respond to what may have been unavoidable. This demonstration will also highlight how Earth-observing satellites have revolutionized understanding of our dynamic world.

Meeting Room Program Schedule

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: Preparing for Climate Change on the Coast

Primary Sponsor: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Event Summary: As humans burn fossil fuels the resulting gases collect in the atmosphere and trap heat in a "Greenhouse" effect. NOAA conducts long-term measurements of greenhouse gases at six manned Baseline Atmospheric Observatories and at 70 other locations in 45 countries. The observatories at Mauna Loa, Hawaii and at the South Pole have been in operation since 1957 and the Mauna Loa carbon dioxide record is considered one of Earth's most important geophysical records. Carbon dioxide (CO_2) contributes ~50% of the heating from greenhouse gases and methane is responsible for ~ 20%. Carbon dioxide is increasing at an average of 2 parts per million (ppm) per year. Globally averaged methane (CH_4) concentrations have increased by ~10 ppb each year over the past few years. If anthropogenic greenhouse gases are to be controlled to forestall a possible 3-10° C increase in global average temperatures, large shifts in political will and basic economic transformations will be required. The debates continue.

2:30-4:00 PM

Event: Global Energy Efficiency Potential

Primary Sponsor: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)

Event Summary: This event will describe a global partnership between the U.S. and several other countries with a particular focus on India. It will focus on U.S.-India demand-side management (DSM) and standards efficiency programs, successes to date, and plans for the future in establishing programs to reduce electricity shortages in India. These plans and successes result in an estimated cumulative reduction of carbon emissions (up to 400 $MtCO_2$ by 2020) and will lead to faster economic growth of up to $500 billion increased GDP by 2020. Speakers will share information about U.S. efficiency programs and their relevance to India, ongoing and new India efficiency programs, and planned future activities. The panel will also present data and information about white roofs to cool buildings and cities. These can eliminate 25 $GtCO_2$ emissions over the life of the roofs. This is equivalent to cancelling the emissions of half the cars in the world, for 20 years!

4:15-5:45 PM

Event: Tropical Cyclones and Climate Change

Primary Sponsor: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Event Summary: Hurricanes and tropical storms continue to threaten lives and property around the world. How will global warming affect these storms in the future? What are scientists doing to improve hurricane forecasts? Current climate models and theory suggest that over this century greenhouse warming will cause tropical cyclones to become more intense, but less frequent. This event will present conclusions of an expert assessment of the impact of climate change on tropical cyclones by the World Meteorological Organization. You will also hear about the latest advances in using global climate models to simulate storm intensity and paths over an entire hurricane season across wide areas and the use of satellite and aircraft observations to better understand how these storms behave – a critical step in improving forecasts.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: Stakeholder Driven Approach to Adaptation-East Caribbean

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Event Summary: This event will outline USAID's participatory approach to development-based climate change adaptation. It will draw on lessons learned from recent USAID support to the Eastern Caribbean, in line with U.S. emphasis on providing climate change support to small island states. The event will showcase USAID's experience with providing practical guidance and tools for engaging stakeholders in the adaptation process. A representative from the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and a representative from the St. Lucian delegation will discuss the vulnerabilities of the region to climate change, the stakeholder-driven process used to identify priorities for an adaptation program, and progress to date on implementing the program. A mini-training on the stakeholder adaptation process will follow, allowing participants a chance to experience a truncated version of the program first-hand. Participants will be asked to provide ideas for adaptation priority-setting and vulnerability assessment followed by a brief discussion.

4:15-5:45 PM

Event: Adaptation and Sustainable management for U.S. Forests

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

Event Summary: Adapting to a warmer climate in forest ecosystems requires three basic steps: (1) establishing science-management partnerships and an educational dialogue; (2) conducting a vulnerability assessment for natural resources; and (3) developing adaptation practices at the strategic and tactical level. This adaptation sequence has been successfully applied on national forest and national park lands in the United States to incorporate "climate change thinking" in

natural resource management. This approach can be adjusted as needed to include diverse management objectives and interests of local stakeholders. The U.S. Forest Service is using this framework to implement a new road map for climate change across all national forests, providing a useful organizational structure for adaptation in forest ecosystems throughout the world.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: OpenEI Platform

Primary Sponsor: National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

Event Summary: The U.S. government will showcase the Open Energy Information (OpenEI) platform (http://openei.org) that is fostering global access to clean energy data, tools, and expertise. An overview and hands-on demonstration will be provided about the information and tools available through OpenEI (including the recently developed version for Latin America), followed by a panel discussion with country officials and international institutions providing feedback on valuable OpenEI tools and services and opportunities for enhancement. The event will also promote awareness and education on methods and tools to support Low Emission Development Strategies and will highlight the Coordinated Low Emissions Assistance Network (CLEAN), for which OpenEI serves as the information portal.

11:45-1:15 PM

Event: Sustainable Communities Partnership

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)

Event Summary: Livability means "being able to take your kids to school, go to work, see a doctor, drop by the grocery or post office, go out to dinner and a movie, and play with your kids at the park, all without having to get into your car." -Secretary Ray LaHood, USDOT.

This side event will showcase U.S. livability efforts, including cross-government activities. Activities to be discussed during this event include: the six principles of the Partnership for Sustainable Communities; livability benefits, including emissions reductions, reducing consumer costs, and tax dollar savings; major recent successes, including planning guides, bicycle and pedestrian policies, and funding initiatives; discretionary grant programs, including planning grants; and major case studies from across the United States.

2:30-4:00 PM

Event: Famine Early Warning Systems

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Event Summary: Famine early warning systems provide a unique viewpoint

for understanding the implications of climate change on food security. The same historical climate record that serves as a primary early warning reference for seasonal food security monitoring is used to assess potential climate change impacts. Detailed analyses of observed climate trends are combined with diagnostic ocean-atmosphere studies, and these are used to develop interpretations of Global Climate Model scenarios and their implications for future patterns of precipitation and temperature. In Eastern Africa, such studies reveal trends toward warmer/drier climate conditions and increases in the relative frequency of drought. In fact, these changes seem to be already occurring, with an associated increase in food insecurity. Sub-national analyses for Kenya, for example, point to the need for adaptation through improved agricultural practices, so that increased yields can offset the impacts of rising temperatures and declining rainfall.

4:15-5:45PM

Event: From Space to Village: Using Space Technology for Improved Environmental Management

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Event Summary: U.S. government representatives from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and NASA will describe the development of the SERVIR visualization and monitoring program. SERVIR -Spanish for "to serve"- integrates satellite imagery, forecast models, mapping information, and ground-based data for environmental management and disaster preparedness and response. It puts previously inaccessible earth observation data into the hands of decision makers, which enables them to make better informed decisions about a range of issues including climate change, disaster response, and biodiversity conservation. The system was developed by researchers at NASA, in collaboration with USAID, to extend the benefits of earth science information to international partners (including governments, media, and nongovernmental organizations) in the developing world. SERVIR has operated in Central America since 2005, was expanded to East Africa in 2008, and most recently was launched in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya region in 2010.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: The Impact of Fires

Primary Sponsor: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Event Summary: Fires have an effect on Earth's climate and, in turn, changes in climate can influence the frequency and severity of fire outbreaks. The climate-fire interaction may produce important societal and environmental impacts over the long term. Panelists will discuss recent advances in systems to monitor active fires, study fire severity, fire growth, emissions into the atmosphere, and the effect of

fire on the storage of carbon worldwide. Several U.S. agencies are developing powerful new tools to monitor and study fires and quantify their impacts on the Earth's system using satellites and ground-based observations. Scientists are using such data to analyze and forecast the effectiveness of government fuel treatment strategies in reducing fire-induced greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon sequestration potential by ecosystems.

11:45-1:15 PM

Event: Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Event Summary: This event will showcase a new multi-agency U.S. government initiative – Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies. This program will support partner countries' efforts to develop long-term strategic approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while accelerating sustainable economic growth and development. The initiative has two primary components: (1) in-country technical support services and (2) building a shared knowledge base on Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS). High-level officials will introduce the initiative and discuss current developments, then take questions from the audience.

2:30-4:00 PM

Event: Meeting Our Fast-Start Commitments: U.S. Climate Change Assistance to Developing Countries

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Event Summary: This side event will highlight the United States commitment to the full implementation of the Copenhagen Accord through our fast-start appropriations. COP-16 will mark the one year anniversary of U.S. commitments made in Copenhagen to provide approaching $30 billion, during the period 2010-2012, to help meet the adaptation and mitigation needs of developing countries. A distinguished panel of U.S. government representatives from the U.S. Departments of State and Treasury, along with the United States Agency for International Development, will showcase international climate finance, climate-related export credit and development financing, REDD+ financing, as well as support pledged under the Climate Investment Funds.

4:15-5:45 PM

Event: Climate Change and Adaptation in the Transport System

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)

Event Summary: The U.S. transportation sector accounts for approximately 29% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions and nearly

7% of world greenhouse gas emissions. The United States considers it a top priority to take action to combat climate change in the transportation sector. The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) leads many efforts to reduce climate change emissions as well as adapt to impending climate change impacts.

Topics to be covered in this event include: fuel economy standards, including new heavy-duty truck regulations; aviation initiatives, including new research endeavors and innovative policies; U.S. National Rail Plan, including high-speed and intercity passenger rail; Partnership for Sustainable Communities; climate adaptation work, including DOT projects and government-wide initiatives; and discretionary grants work for innovative and sustainable transportation projects and plans.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: Local Partnerships for City Adaptation and Air Pollution Megacities

Primary Sponsor: National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Event Summary: This international-scale, interactive session will feature presentations by Hanwant Singh, of NASA, and A.R. Ravishankara, of NOAA, who have been leading research teams examining air quality over large cities over the last 20 years—including Mexico City and Los Angeles. In comparing air quality over these two cities, they found that these cities' air quality and their contribution to climate change are intimately connected. They've also found that there are win-win scenarios for improving air quality in those cities and helping to reduce climate change; and there are future scenarios that their citizens will undoubtedly want to avoid. This session will present the kinds of scientific information citizens need to make informed decisions about air quality in their cities and its contribution to climate change, and how scientists go about gathering such information. This session will also feature live interactions with personnel in science centers in Mexico City, Los Angeles, and Lisbon, Portugal. These personnel will briefly describe ongoing partnerships and initiatives for local adaptation to climate change in their cities. Participants and attendees will have time to interact and ask questions.

11:45-1:15 PM

Event: Climate Change and Health

Primary Sponsor: National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)

Event Summary: As the physical manifestations of global climate change become more apparent, governments, especially health ministries, need to understand and address potential health impacts, both current and future. The United States has expanded its activities on the human health aspects of

climate change and is making a strong commitment to working domestically and internationally to understand and minimize public health consequences. Speakers will update the audience on the current understanding of health priorities related to climate change, highlight the activities of the U.S.'s new working group on climate change and human health, and showcase international health organization activities aimed at assessing and preventing adverse health outcomes related to climate change.

2:30-4:00 PM

Event: Climate Services and Disaster Risk Management

Primary Sponsor: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Event Summary: Driven by the rising economic and human costs of disasters, humanitarian actors are shifting from a response paradigm toward policies and strategies that include preparedness and prevention. In parallel, climate actors (e.g. meteorological services and climate scientists) are reorganizing around the concept of climate services, which will enable them to play a more proactive role in informing development, adaptation and disaster risk management. The objective of both groups is to protect lives and livelihoods.

This side event demonstrates how climate and humanitarian partnerships have resulted in improved humanitarian outcomes in Asia, Africa and Latin America. These partnerships are essential to ensuring that climate information needs are identified, met and communicated effectively to result in better informed action.

4:15-5:45 PM

Event: The Energy of the Future: RENEWABLES

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Department of Commerce (USDOC)

Event Summary: This event will present a panel of industry, NGO and government experts in renewables, who will discuss technologies that will be on display in Cancun at the World Climate Summit (Dec. 4-5) and the Green Solutions Trade Show (Dec. 5-8). COP16 negotiators at the end of the day will be asking themselves: "How are we going to achieve our commitments?" This event is a tour d'horizon of what the U.S. has to offer in renewable energy products including: biofuels, green buildings, IT, wind, solar, and grid-technologies. While much of the world may think the U.S. is behind in these technologies, this is not the case; rather, U.S. technologies and products lead in many areas. Real, ready to use solutions are presented just down the beach at the World Climate Summit, and the Green Solutions show. These are current U.S. technologies that can show how GHG emissions will be reduced.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

The U.S. Center will not be open

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

The U.S. Center will not be open

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: The Air We Breathe: It Ain't What It Used To Be!

Primary Sponsor: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Event Summary: As humans burn fossil fuels the resulting gases collect in the atmosphere and trap heat in a "Greenhouse" effect. NOAA conducts long-term measurements of greenhouse gases at six manned Baseline Atmospheric Observatories and at 70 other locations in 45 countries. The observatories at Mauna Loa, Hawaii and at the South Pole have been in operation since 1957, and the Mauna Loa carbon dioxide record is considered one of Earth's most important geophysical records.

Carbon dioxide (CO2) contributes about 50 percent of the heating from greenhouse gases and methane is responsible for about 20%. Carbon dioxide is increasing at an average of 2 parts per million (ppm) per year. Globally averaged methane (CH4) concentrations have increased by about 10 ppb each year over the past few years.

If anthropogenic greenhouse gases are to be controlled to forestall a possible 3-10° C increase in global average temperatures, large shifts in political will and basic economic transformations will be required. The debates continue.

11:45-1:15 PM

Event: U.S. State and Regional Climate and Energy Policy Leadership

Primary Sponsor: Georgetown Climate Center and the States of New York, Maine and California

Event Summary: Much is still being done to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. Successful programs at the state and regional levels demonstrate that real reductions can be achieved, and at reasonable costs. These efforts can inform efforts in other states and at the sub-national level globally. Senior officials from U.S. state environment and energy agencies will discuss action at the U.S. state and regional levels, and opportunities for global engagement and information sharing.

1:30-2:45 PM

Event: Critical Needs in the Race to Observe Ocean Acidification

Primary Sponsor: Scripps Institution of Oceanography/UC San Diego

Event Summary: The Global Mobilization in Response to Ocean Acidification: Scripps Oceanography, Plymouth Marine Laboratory and colleagues highlight the latest research into potential biological and socio-economic impacts and action being taken by world governments to understand future threats from ocean acidification.

3:00-4:30 PM

Event: Subnational Renewable Energy and Climate Change Initiatives

Primary Sponsor: South Western States

Event Summary: Subnationals are leaders in addressing climate change and the challenges and opportunities it presents. From adopting state Climate Action Plans to becoming the leading wind power generator in the United States, the Governors of Colorado, New Mexico and Texas will discuss how their state has leveraged its own individual resources, ingenuity and entrepreneurship to respond to these challenges.

4:45-6:15 PM

Event: United States Flagship International Programs and Technical Assistance for Forest and Terrestrial Carbon Monitoring

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Event Summary: This side event will present flagship U.S. government programs that harness the full technical capacities of United States government agencies, and academic and non-profit organizations, to help developing countries establish forest monitoring systems and complete national greenhouse gas inventories for forests and land use. This event will also highlight the extensive roster of existing activities that are building the foundations for forest monitoring, and how the U.S. is engaging as part of the international community within the Global Earth Observations (GEO) process to help countries implement large-scale national demonstrations of forest carbon tracking systems, and to test and compare methodologies and technologies so that countries can make more informed decisions about how to design and manage their national forest monitoring systems.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: U.S. National Water Census

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Department of the Interior (USDOI)

Event Summary: Climate variability and change pose a threat to water resources throughout the world. Water managers need decision support tools and access to water resource information to make informed decisions about water availability in the face of a changing climate. The U.S. National Water Census is a state-of-the-art tool primarily focused on examining the water quantity and quality that is present in the environment and the amount that is currently withdrawn and consumed for human uses. This decision support tool set allows for the fine-scale information needed for planning and management decisions and time series information needed for trend analysis. This panel will provide an overview of the National Water Census and discuss how any nation that collects similar hydrologic and water use information could replicate this tool to analyze water availability in their area of interest. The panel will illustrate how other nations could develop and use this process for their water availability issues. Development of decision support tools to inform decisions about water availability in a changing climate has been identified as a critical need and important ongoing role for the U.S. government.

11:45-1:15 PM

Event: Clean Energy Technologies for the Developing World

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Department of Commerce (USDOC)

Event Summary: A panel of U.S. government representatives and private sector participants will highlight U.S. industry and U.S. government programs that support an enabling environment for deploying existing renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies to developing countries. A key to effective climate mitigation will be helping these countries access and use low-cost technologies that tackle the twin challenges of successful development, with increased opportunities for local populations, and greenhouse gas mitigation. Creating the right infrastructure for these technologies offers the best chance for success. Intellectual property rights and protections will be an important feature of these programs. U.S. government and industry representatives will address questions such as: what are some of the best existing and near-term technologies and programs for implementing greenhouse gas reduction in developing countries, including a focus on small-scale solar, wind and energy efficiency programs that are appropriate for developing and least-developed countries? The panel will discuss programs, products and technologies that are being applied in Africa and elsewhere through USAID development projects.

1:30-2:45 PM

Event: Domestic Climate Change Activities

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

Event Summary: EPA is continuing to move forward on a sensible path to address greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. EPA's Domestic Climate Change Activities side event will highlight domestic regulatory, programmatic, and voluntary activities (in-place and planned) that are occurring at the federal level. We will showcase a set of key actions and activities, including the greenhouse gas endangerment finding, light-duty vehicle greenhouse gas rule, greenhouse gas mandatory reporting rule, the GHG tailoring rule, and the renewable fuel standard. We will also highlight upcoming actions that the Agency plans to take in the coming months/years.

3:00-4:30 PM

Event: CTI PFAN: Facilitating Clean Energy Finance and Technology Transfer for Developing Countries

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Event Summary: The USAID-supported Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN) is a multilateral, public-private partnership initiated by the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI) in cooperation with the UNFCCC Expert Group on Technology Transfer. PFAN helps bridge the gap between investors and clean energy businesses. At this event, CTI will present on the progress of its PFAN work, showcasing its practical experiences financing clean energy projects in developing countries. The event will discuss recent successes, with a focus on Asia, including China, India and the Philippines, and discuss opportunities offered by CTI PFAN for the scaling up of its program for financing technology transfer to developing countries. The direct experience of project developers and/or financiers, who have benefited from the services provided by PFAN financial consultants, will also be highlighted.

4:45-6:15 PM

Event: Emerging Tools for Farm-Scale GHG Footprint

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Event Summary: The U.S. Department of Agriculture and Colorado State University are developing a user-friendly greenhouse gas calculator and decision support tool for agricultural producers, land managers, soil scientists and other agricultural interests. The system provides estimates of the annual greenhouse gas fluxes from farm, ranch and forestry activities using dynamic simulation modeling. An earlier version of the tool has been used in the U.S. Voluntary GHG Reporting Program, but the current

extensive modification significantly broadens its scope to include soil carbon, nitrogen emissions, agro-forestry, and on-farm energy use. The user interface has been made simpler and more intuitive, while allowing for more precise inputs. The tool, called COMET-FARM (or C-Farm), has applicability for farm- or management unit-scale analysis, as well as planning and policy implementation. C-Farm will be presented, with an emphasis on its capabilities and potential usefulness to governments in developing and implementing future agricultural policies addressing climate change issues.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: Global Research Alliance Fellowship

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Event Summary: The U.S. is supporting climate change mitigation programs in developing countries through the Global Research Alliance (GRA) Borlaug Fellows Program. The program is sponsoring scientists from Chile, India, Malaysia, Ghana, Mexico, the Philippines, and Vietnam to come to the U.S. to conduct agricultural mitigation research. This session will explain the GRA, the Fellowship Program, and how U.S. universities and research centers are supporting collaboration with developing countries. The Director of the USDA's Global Change Program will chair a panel that includes two Borlaug fellows and a U.S. university scientist. The panel will present their climate change research and will discuss how the U.S. can bolster climate change science capacity in developing countries.

11:45-1:15 PM

Event: Moving Forward with Climate Change Adaptation in the United States

Primary Sponsor: Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)

Event Summary: Planning for adaptation is essential to protect communities, infrastructure and natural systems, and to reduce the long-term costs of responding to climate change impacts. This event will focus on actions the United States is taking to strengthen the Nation's capacity to understand, prepare for, and respond to the risks associated with climate change. At President Barack Obama's direction, an interagency task force recently released a report that outlines recommended actions in support of a national climate change adaptation strategy. The recommendations include: making adaptation a standard part of agency planning across the U.S. government; improving access to scientific information about the impacts of climate change; building strong partnerships with local, state, and tribal decision makers; and developing a government-wide approach to help developing countries reduce their vulnerability to climate change. The report also highlights the importance of effective collaboration with international partners and the private sector.

1:30-2:45 PM

Event: Launch of United States Strategy for REDD+

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Event Summary: This event will present the U.S. government's new whole of government strategy for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+). A high-level U.S. government speaker will discuss this new strategy for delivering REDD+ assistance and results. A technical presentation will focus on flagship programs and projects the U.S. is implementing, as well as planned investments and activities in forest carbon sequestration. This event will highlight the long-standing U.S. commitment to tropical forest conservation and sustainable development, and its new commitments to build on those achievements to help developing countries who put forward ambitious plans for preserving forests. A Question and Answer session about the new REDD+ strategy will conclude the event.

3:00-4:30 PM

Event: U.S. and Mexico – An Ongoing Commitment to Bi-National Cooperation on Climate Change and Development

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Event Summary: Climate change is a major priority for both the United States and Mexico. The United States is collaborating with Mexico to provide strong support for enhancing capacity for low emission development strategies, REDD+, and clean energy in Mexico. The United States Agency for International Development will share highlights of USAID-Mexico cooperation on climate change and perspectives on future areas of collaboration.

4:45-6:15 PM

Event: Green Buildings: The Low Hanging Fruit

Primary Sponsor: Department of Commerce (USDOC)

Event Summary: This session will highlight U.S. leading-edge programs, products, advances and solutions to GHG reductions in building stock. We will discuss emerging standards, Energy Service Company (ESCO) contributions, and the Greening of U.S. government buildings. Reducing GHGs in buildings is the low-hanging fruit of GHG mitigation, which can be undertaken at cost savings by building owners and occupants. Panelists represent ESCOs, Green Building NGOs, and building supply and technology companies. The event will seek to answer the questions; "What are some of the leading technologies and examples of green buildings? What are some of the obstacles of implementation? What is the best way forward in implementing energy efficiency in buildings and homes?" U.S. government representatives will discuss

how emerging and existing standards and regulations can advance implementation of Green Buildings programs in the U.S. and internationally. We will also highlight what the U.S. government programs are doing, especially the "Green Embassies" program of the U.S.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: Climate Solutions through Technology and Innovation: Alternatives to Hydrofluorocarbons

Primary Sponsor: Department of State and Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

Event Summary: Our lives are safer and more comfortable because of some of the advances modern technology has brought us in refrigeration, air conditioning, foams, solvents, aerosol propellants, and fire protection. While these technologies improve our lives, their use has also resulted in substantial climate impacts. First, these technologies used substances that both harmed the ozone layer and climate system and now increasingly use hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), significantly damaging the climate system. HFCs are extremely potent greenhouse gases. Without mitigation measures, scientists predict that HFCs could account for nearly 20% of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. But, climate-friendly alternatives are available. The United States, Canada and Mexico are focusing the world's attention on the climate-friendly solutions that are already available and on developing those that are still needed.

Substitutes with low global warming potential (GWP) are available for various applications, including hydrocarbons, ammonia, carbon dioxide, and water. This side event will review progress in developing and deploying low- GWP substitutes in the air conditioning, refrigeration, foam production, and other industrial sectors; identify opportunities to reduce HFC emissions; highlight some challenges that remain; and identify policies and actions governments and other stakeholders can take to encourage such substitution. Linkages to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer will be included. The side event will provide practical insights and lessons learned from Canada, Mexico and the United States that will be invaluable to countries where, as in most parts of the world, HFC use is expected to grow rapidly in the absence of controls.

11:45-1:15 PM

Event: GreenGov: The Role of the U.S. Federal Government Operations in Reducing GHG Pollution

Primary Sponsor: Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)

Event Summary: President Barack Obama has taken an aggressive and unprecedented approach to ensuring the U.S. government reduces its greenhouse gas pollution and energy use. President Obama's goal, outlined in

Executive Order 13514, is to leverage the size and scale of the Federal Government to encourage the growth of a clean energy economy in the U.S., reduce greenhouse gas pollution, improve energy efficiency, and meet a wide range of sustainability goals related to its buildings, fleets, lands, and people. The U.S. Federal government is the single largest consumer of energy in the U.S. economy, it owns and operates almost 500,000 buildings, has more than 600,000 fleet vehicles, and employs nearly 2 million civilian employees and 1.5 million men and women on active duty in the military services. This session will report the first year of progress under the Executive Order including a presentation from the Department of Defense, and will discuss the role of Federal operations in a clean energy economy.

3:00-4:30 PM

Event: National Security Implications on Climate Change

Primary Sponsor: Department of Defense (USDOD)

Event Summary: This event will provide an overview of how climate change will impact the Department of Defense (DOD) and how DOD may contribute to the development of climate change solutions. The event will begin with a discussion of how climate change will impact the future security environment. Focus will then shift to a specific discussion of anticipated impacts on U.S. Naval operations such as the opening of the Arctic. This event will also discuss the impacts of climate change on land and property managed by DOD, focusing on the work of the Strategic Environmental Research Development Program, which is preparing domestic installations to withstand the impacts of climate change. Lastly, the event will include a summary of U.S. Southern Command's regional partnership with foreign militaries on environmental security issues.

4:45-6:15 PM

Event: Driving Low-Carbon, Green Investments

Primary Sponsor: Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE)

Event Summary: To meet the international objective of mobilizing $100 billion by 2020 to support global climate change efforts, it is essential to involve the business community as it is estimated that as much as 80 percent of the funding will come from private capital. The private sector makes tomorrow's investment decisions today. In order to capitalize on these decisions, the right incentives must be put into play. This side event will explore how the private sector makes green, low-carbon investments, and what policies are needed to further expand this investment. Examples already exist where public flows are leveraging private sector flows, and tapping into the experience and insight of private companies will help open new markets and accelerate the deployment of existing clean energy technologies.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

10:00-11:30 AM

Event: Solar Works for America

Primary Sponsor: Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)

Event Summary: Solar energy technology is helping power the American economy today while reducing the pollution causing climate change. In fact, the U.S. is poised to become the world's largest solar market within five years, as solar becomes the number one new energy source by 2015, growing by 10,000 megawatts annually. This is enough to displace 10 coal plants per year. With smart policies such as the U.S. Treasury Grant program and key state level efforts, solar has grown 40% annually over the past 10 years. Smart policies and manufacturing innovations have led directly to falling prices and increased use of solar, driving heightened public awareness and support for solar technologies. Solar now employs 93,000 Americans in all fifty states. With the right policies in place, solar can support 440,000 jobs in five years and keep the U.S. on track to meet the pledges in the Copenhagen Accord.

11:45-1:15 PM

Event: NIFA Carbon Stocks in North America

Primary Sponsor: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Event Summary: This activity presents results of United States, Canadian, and Mexican coordinated interagency and international research on North American carbon stocks and fluxes and how this research is used for decision support to manage for increased carbon sequestration in the context of preserving ecosystem services and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This coordinated effort, CarboNA, involves a U.S. North American Carbon Program, a Mexican Carbon Program, and various carbon programs at Canadian research agencies. The panel will discuss what this interagency and international effort has discovered about carbon stocks, fluxes, processes, vulnerabilities, and feedbacks to the climate system; highlight the program's synthesis efforts to explain and forecast changes to the carbon cycle; and decision support projects for informed management of land, ocean, water and other resources to adapt to and mitigate global change. Brief presentations by the speakers will be followed by questions and discussion.

Image credit: U.S. Global Change
Research Program (www.globalchange.gov)